

INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

NORME INTERNATIONALE



**Electrical installations of buildings –
Part 5-53: Selection and erection of electrical equipment – Isolation, switching
and control**

**Installations électriques des bâtiments –
Partie 5-53: Choix et mise en oeuvre des matériels électriques – Sectionnement,
coupure et commande**

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ELECTRICAL INSTALLATIONS OF BUILDINGS –

Part 5-53: Selection and erection of electrical equipment – Isolation, switching and control

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In this Redline version, a vertical line in the margin shows where the technical content is modified by amendments 1 and 2. Additions are in green text, deletions are in strikethrough red text. A separate Final version with all changes accepted is available in this publication.

International Standard IEC 60364-5-53 has been prepared by IEC technical committee 64: Electrical installations and protection against electric shock.

The IEC 60364 series (parts 1 to 6), is currently being restructured, without any technical changes, into a more simple form (see annex D).

The text of this third edition of IEC 60364-5-53 is compiled from and replaces

- IEC 60364-5-53, second edition (1994) and its corrigendum 1 (1996),
- IEC 60364-5-534, first edition (1997),
- IEC 60364-5-537, first edition (1981) and its amendment 1 (1989) and
- IEC 60364-4-46, first edition (1981).

This publication has been drafted with the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2.

~~Annexes A, B, C and D are for information only.~~

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ELECTRICAL INSTALLATIONS OF BUILDINGS –

Part 5-53: Selection and erection of electrical equipment – Isolation, switching and control

530 Introduction

530.1 Scope

This part of IEC 60364 deals with general requirements for isolation, switching and control and with the requirements for selection and erection of the devices provided to fulfil such functions.

530.2 Normative references

The following normative documents contain provisions which, through reference in this text, constitute provisions of this part of IEC 60364. For dated references, subsequent amendments to, or revisions of, any of these publications do not apply. However, parties to agreements based on this part of IEC 60364 are encouraged to investigate the possibility of applying the most recent editions of the normative documents indicated below. For undated references, the latest edition of the normative document referred to applies. Members of IEC and ISO maintain registers of currently valid International Standards.

IEC 60038, *IEC standard voltages*

IEC 60269-3:1987, *Low-voltage fuses – Part 3: Supplementary requirements for fuses for use by unskilled persons (fuses mainly for household and similar applications)*

IEC 60364-4-41:2001 2005, *Electrical installations of buildings – IEC 60364-4-41: Protection for safety – Protection against electric shock*

IEC 60364-4-42:2001, *Electrical installations of buildings – Part 4-42: Protection for safety – Protection against thermal effects*

IEC 60364-4-43:2001 2008, *Electrical installations of buildings – Part 4-43: Protection for safety – Protection against overcurrent*

IEC 60364-4-44:2001 2007, *Electrical installations of buildings – Part 4-44: Protection for safety – Protection against voltage disturbances and electromagnetic disturbances*

IEC 60364-5-54, *Low-voltage electrical installations – Part 5-54: Selection and erection of electrical equipment – Earthing arrangements and protective conductors*

IEC 60364-6-61:2001, *Electrical installations of buildings – Part 6-61: Verification – Initial verification*

IEC 60364-7-705:1984, *Electrical installations of buildings – Part 7: Requirements for special installations or locations – Section 705: Electrical installations of agricultural and horticultural premises*

IEC 60664-1:1992, *Insulation coordination for equipment within low-voltage systems – Part 1: Principles, requirements and tests*

IEC 61008-1:1996 2010, *Residual current operated circuit-breakers without integral overcurrent protection for household and similar uses (RCCBs) – Part 1: General rules*

IEC 61009:1996, *Residual current operated circuit-breakers with integral overcurrent protection for household and similar uses (RCBOs) Part 1: General rules*

IEC 61024-1:1990, *Protection of structures against lightning – Part 1: General principles*

IEC 61312-1:1995, *Protection against lightning electromagnetic impulse – Part 1: General principles*

IEC/TS 61312-2:1999, *Protection against lightning electromagnetic impulse (LEMP) – Part 2: Shielding of structures, bonding inside structures and earthing*

IEC/TS 61312-3:2000, *Protection against lightning electromagnetic impulse – Part 3: Requirements of surge protective devices (SPDs)*

IEC 61643-1:1998, *Surge-protective device connected to low-voltage power distribution systems – Part 1: Performance requirements and testing methods*

IEC 61643-1, amendment 1 (2001)

IEC 61643-11:2011, *Low-voltage surge protective devices – Part 11: Surge protective devices connected to low-voltage power systems – Requirements and test methods*

IEC 61643-12:2008, *Low-voltage surge protective devices – Part 12: Surge protective devices connected to low-voltage power distribution systems – ~~Part 1: Performance requirements and testing methods~~¹ Selection and application principles*

IEC 62305 (all parts), *Protection against lightning*

IEC 62305-1, *Protection against lightning – Part 1: General principles*

IEC 62305-2, *Protection against lightning – Part 2: Risk management*

IEC 62305-4, *Protection against lightning – Part 4: Electrical and electronic systems within structures*

530.3 (530) **General and common requirements**

This part of IEC 60364 shall provide compliance with the measures of protection for safety, the requirements for proper functioning for intended use of the installation, and the requirements appropriate to the external influences foreseen. Every item of equipment shall be selected and erected so as to allow compliance with the rules stated in the following clauses of this part and the relevant rules in other parts of this standard.

The requirements of this part are supplementary to the common rules given in IEC 60364-5-51.

530.3.1 (530.1) The moving contacts of all poles of multipole devices shall be so coupled mechanically that they make and break substantially together, except that contacts solely intended for the neutral may close before and open after the other contacts.

530.3.2 (530.2) Except as provided in 536.2.2.7, in multiphase circuits, single-pole devices shall not be inserted in the neutral conductor.

In single-phase circuits single-pole devices shall not be inserted in the neutral conductor, unless a residual current device complying with the rules of 413.1 of IEC 60364-4-41 is provided on the supply side.

¹ ~~To be published.~~

530.3.3 (530.3) Devices embodying more than one function shall comply with all the requirements of this part appropriate to each separate function.

531 Devices for protection against indirect contact by automatic disconnection of supply

531.1 Overcurrent protective devices

531.1.1 TN systems

In TN systems overcurrent protective devices shall be selected and erected according to the conditions specified in 434.2 and 431 and in 533.3 for devices for protection against short-circuit, and shall satisfy the requirements of 413.1.3.3.

531.1.2 TT systems

Under consideration.

531.1.3 IT systems

Where exposed-conductive-parts are interconnected, overcurrent protective devices for protection in the event of a second fault shall comply with 531.1.1 taking into account the requirements of 413.1.5.5 of IEC 60364-4-41.

531.2 Residual current protective devices

531.2.1 General conditions of installation

Residual current protective devices in d.c. systems shall be specially designed for detection of d.c. residual currents, and to break circuit currents under normal conditions and fault conditions.

531.2.1.1 A residual current protective device shall ensure the disconnection of all live conductors in the circuit protected. In TN-S systems, the neutral need not be disconnected if the supply conditions are such that the neutral conductor can be considered to be reliably at earth potential.

NOTE The conditions for verification that the neutral conductor is reliably at earth potential are under consideration.

531.2.1.2 No protective conductor shall pass through the magnetic circuit of a residual current protective device.

531.2.1.3 Residual current protective devices shall be so selected, and the electrical circuits so subdivided, that any earth-leakage current which may be expected to occur during normal operation of the connected load(s) will be unlikely to cause unnecessary tripping of the device.

NOTE Residual current protective devices may operate at any value of residual current in excess of 50 % of the rated operating current.

531.2.1.4 Influence of d.c. components

Under consideration.

531.2.1.5 The use of a residual current protective device associated with circuits not having a protective conductor, even if the rated operating residual current does not exceed 30 mA, shall not be considered as a measure sufficient for protection against indirect contact.

531.2.2 Selection of devices according to their method of application

531.2.2.1 Residual current protective devices may or may not have an auxiliary source, taking into account the requirements of 531.2.2.2.

NOTE The auxiliary source may be the supply system.

531.2.2.2 The use of residual current protective devices with an auxiliary source not operating automatically in the case of failure of the auxiliary source is permitted only if one of the two following conditions is fulfilled:

- protection against indirect contact according to 413.1 of IEC 60364-4-41 is ensured even in the case of failure of the auxiliary supply;
- the devices are installed in installations operated, tested and inspected by instructed persons (BA4) or skilled persons (BA5).

531.2.3 TN systems

If for certain equipment or for certain parts of the installation, one or more of the conditions stated in 413.1.3 cannot be satisfied, those parts may be protected by a residual current protective device. In this case, exposed-conductive-parts need not be connected to the TN earthing system protective conductor, provided that they are connected to an earth electrode affording a resistance appropriate to the operating current of the residual current protective device. The circuit thus protected is to be treated as a TT system and 413.1.4 applies.

If, however, no separate earth electrode exists, connection of the exposed-conductive-parts to the protective conductor needs to be made on the source side of the residual current protective device.

531.2.4 TT systems

If an installation is protected by a single residual current protective device, this shall be placed at the origin of the installation, unless the part of the installation between the origin and the device complies with the requirement for protection by the use of class II equipment or equivalent insulation (see 413.2).

NOTE Where there is more than one origin, this requirement applies to each origin.

531.2.5 IT systems

Where protection is provided by a residual current protective device, and disconnection following a first fault is not envisaged, the residual non-operating current of the device shall be at least equal to the current which circulates on the first fault to earth of negligible impedance affecting a phase conductor.

531.3 Insulation monitoring devices

NOTE Insulation monitoring devices may operate with an appropriate response time.

An insulation monitoring device provided in accordance with 413.1.5.4 is a device continuously monitoring the insulation of an electrical installation. It is intended to indicate a significant reduction in the insulation level of the installation to allow the cause of this reduction to be found before the occurrence of a second fault, and thus avoid disconnection of the supply.

Accordingly, it is set at a value below that specified in 612.3 of IEC 60364-6-61 appropriate to the installation concerned.

Insulation monitoring devices shall be so designed or installed that it shall be possible to modify the setting only by the use of a key or a tool.